

RCHC Meeting - April 16, 2025

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SPEAKER: Hi good morning. If we can please find our seat. Good morning. Welcome everyone to our second Riverside County Health Coalition of the year here in beautiful Coachella Valley. The place that I call home and many of us call home. Today we are in the city of Coachella and I'm so happy to see several of our partners here today. And I just want to make a quick announcement in Spanish before we move forward.

[Spanish]

SPEAKER: We are happy to have you join us virtually or here in person. If you haven't done so I welcome, you to say hi to your neighbor so we can start this meeting in a positive note.

And if you are virtually put your name, your organization, and where you're tuning in from so we can know where you are joining us from and even though we may not see you we're very happy you are here joining us. I am Daisy Ramirez, a program coordinator with the health equity outreach program here in the eastern side of the county primarily in the desert area, one of the co-leads for the coalition alongside Mary Obideyi as well as Alicia so thank you. But today we have a special guest who will co-present and facilitate and I will let him introduce him

SPEAKER: I'm the director of our climate justice program... and it's a pleasure to be with you here today.

SPEAKER: Thank you. As we went the meeting started... ensuring our hybrid meeting is run smoothly for everyone. We would like to than the the thank the city of Coachella for hosting us in beautiful venue. As we travel across the county if you joined us for a January meeting we were in the city of Paris and stay tuned to see where we will be for the next coalition meeting. We would like it to thank the native and indigenous people of Riverside County lands we are meting on. Before we move forward with the meeting, I will go over today's agenda.

And then hand it over to Juan. Next slide. So for the agenda if you're new here you are in for a treat. But if you're a returning coalition member you know our agenda is action packed. So, the theme for this meeting is preserving the land community health environmental justice and collaborative action. First, I'll be going over some of the house keeping items. We will then have a land acknowledgment with Dr. Sean Milanovich. We will then have a presentation from our RUHS public health epidemiologist Aviva Golmann titled, what can environmental data tell us about our health.

We will have a panel discussion composed of knowledgeable community partners, and they are coming from Alianza Coachella, Unidas Por Salud, Loma Linda University, UCLA and Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability. We will then have a Q & A are you make sure you prep your questions and if you registered and wrote your questions, we have them on hand so we can ask them.

After our quick 5-minute break we will have an update from our action groups and the community health improvement

plan also known as the championship. We will move onto our after-meeting survey and an activity where you can give a -- win a gift card. Some restrictions apply.

You will have an opportunity to give updates, and we will wrap up the meeting. All meeting presentations like all meeting materials like this presentation, videos are available to view. You can either scan the QR code or there is a link that our chat moderators will be adding to the chat so you can click on it download the presentation as well as different meeting materials for this meeting.

All right. For the housekeeping items we want to make sure that if you are here in person that you have signed in at a greeter's table. There are restrooms outside the double doors to the corridor to the left. And we also have staff monitoring throughout the meeting. We have closed captioning services both in Spanish and English, and there is a QR code where you can get the link.

And as mentioned all of the slides and meeting materials will be available.

For our virtual folks if you haven't done so we want to make sure that you put your name, your organization, and where you are tuning in from. We have staff moderating the chat so if you have any questions feel free to add them to the Q & A box so we can ask them here in person. And if you have any other questions feel free to ask them.

Spanish and English channels are available, and we have ASL interpreter as well.

All right.

SPEAKER: How are we all doing today? Good? There's beautiful weather. It's beautiful. All right. So I'm here to read our land acknowledgment. The Riverside University Health System Public Health Health Equity

Program acknowledges the traditional ancestral and homelands of the indigenous peoples of Riverside County whose land we occupy. The... peoples have been caretakers of this land water and air indigenous peoples have been forcefully displaced or relocated and colonialization is ongoing with their lands still occupied do you to the dishonest illusion of treaties of the Health Equity Program commits to practicing cultural humanity and reciprocity supporting the culture and beliefs of indigenous peoples of Riverside County and beyond. We hope to build an honest on-going relationship with indigenous peoples in Riverside County as we learn from their vast experiences.

We recognize that there have been past injustices and I'm to move towards reconciliation with good intentions and respect. We challenge you to join us in this work. If you are unaware of whose land you had currently occupying we encourage you to learn about the indigenous peoples in your area, and their history and ongoing resilience.

And up next we'd like to welcome Dr. Sean Milanovich who will be doing a song for us. Let me -- Dr. Sean Milanovich is a member of the... band. Cahuilla Indians. He holds a Ph.D in American history specializing in California Native American history. Sean is a cultural competency liaison serving the Native American community of Riverside County. Sean grew up hiking in the Coachella Valley and he connects with the land and the people. He serves multiple grassroots organizations providing access to wellness and programs to the community.

DR. SEAN MILANOVICH: Good morning, everyone. You know. I want to just thank public health for the beautiful in in production I'm Sean. And I am a member of band of... Indians and the AGUA are one group of the Cahuilla nation

that lives here in the Coachella Valley and the surrounding Santa Rosa mountains. At one time there were over 65C Cahuilla villages in on the land that we are in right now. But under federal jurisdiction we were placed on federal Indian reservations. Placed on reserves that were isolated, away from the larger American communities, and we needed permits to go back and forth.

We were under 24/7 vision, the American government and American people did not want us wandering around so when the Americans came into our territory after 1848 that's when California became a state, and then in '52, 1851, 1852 is when we signed the treaties under forced coercion. And it was it was a lie. It was -- it was meant just to take the land from us. It was the way that the United States government used the legal system to try to take our lands, and it's something that we have to work with it every day with the United States government.

If you give an inch the government will take ten feet, and so you know we have to be we have to be focussed and we have to work together. We have to be aware of everything that is going on, and as a larger community now you know we're the one that is are here. We live here. We occupy these lands, and we have to work together for a better environment for our children, for our family members.

And we're all related. We're all interconnected and when I say we're all related, we're all interconnected, I truly mean that. We're all brothers and sisters. We're all relatives. And we have to work together as one and so to have this beautiful forum this morning to talk about the environmental justices and the need for reform is really something big to where we usually don't get a chance. But

this is a beautiful day so I'm going to open up with a song and this is one of our creation songs and it -- songs talk about the movement around the beautiful earth, around. In this land here in southern California. So yeah, I'm going to begin.

(Song)

DR. SEAN MILANOVICH: These songs the Cahuilla Bird songs are really really old. Really old. And they've been passed down from one generation to the next. But the songs come from the CAHUILLA people and all the tribal people that are indigenous to right here in southern California we believe they all came from this migration that the people started long ago. And after we returned back home we were gone for a really long time, and we came into LA, people settled out in the LA area were coming back down the coast. First, we went south of this.

We started right here at the base of Santa Rosa mountains but after the migration after the creator had been killed we went south. We went south down to Central America. Then we came up through New Mexico back up through Colorado, Idaho then we came boundary the coast to California, so we were in the LA area. People settled on Catalina Island the LA basin many some people went on south to San Diego. The one that is became the Cahuilla people went into the Marinho valley area and flew up on the mountain and looked down and said yes this is where we are we have returned home. This is our homeland. So, I just want to say you know it's we need to understand that.

(Recording in progress)

SPEAKER: Let's hear it for Dr. Milanovic. That was beautiful. So up next, we wanted to share a statement from the department of public health. We know right now there

may be some uncertainty around the work many of us are deeply engaged in. Things can feel complicated or unclear at times, and it's understandable that people might be asking, is this still a priority? Is our the health coalition still moving forward? And we can proudly say yes. This work is still a priority.

The Riverside Health Coalition has been instrumental shaping how RUHS health responds to community for over a decade. While things may shift along the way, new tools, different approaches, new face at the table. The overall commitment remains strong. This is a community led initiative with deep support from RUHS public health leadership. Partnering with you community leaders, members and advocates, is central to how we work, how we make decisions, and how we show up for each other.

We know that real change doesn't happen in isolation. It happens through strong partnerships, shared leadership. And the deep wisdom and resilience already present in the communities that we serve.

You are all not just stakeholders. You're co-creators in the work. Your strength, insight wisdom and advocacy are what keep us grounded and moving forward.

Thank you for continuing to show up, asking the hard questions, and keeping the momentum going. Together we are building something that lasts. So thank you all.

There's elephant there because that's the elephant in the room. Did you guys get it? It's a good joke.

I hate clickers. Okay keep going. One more.  
SPEAKER: Thank you so much Juan for addressing the elephant in the room. For folks that are new here we just want to go over a quick overview of our Riverside County Health Coalition of the coalition's mission is to promote

improve and sustain social and physical environments for health and wellness in the Riverside County which is the work that you and we do. The coalition is a space at that gather partners interested and committed to improving the health and well being of our community. We meet quarterly to share knowledge highlight practices and work together to identify and support and support preventive efforts.

So why are we here? We are here because we want to expand partnerships. We want to network and as you have seen outside. If you haven't visited we have booths today that highlight some of our partners. So feel free to stop by during our breaks. As well as after the meetings so you can get more information. To share resources, as mentioned, and highlight innovative practices and we will hear more about that during the panel discussion we had have today.

It's also pour community empowerment. It's to empower not only us as an organization. Also the community and continue working on the different initiatives that we are currently doing.

So please I encourage everyone to let everyone know about the coalition, and invite them to be part of our contact list so if you're not able to make it you can still get all of the information. Our coalition loves to share community resources and events happening in the county. And you can always provide that information through our equity e-mail. There's little fly here. If you see me swatting it's because there's a fly. I think we can all resonate with what was mentioned here. We are all the coalition.

We want to thank you for joining us in person as well as virtually. I know we have several virtual folks that



are joining throughout Riverside County and beyond.

And before we share this video, for the promotion of our coalition meeting our health equity communications team created this video that I hope you all enjoy. How many of you have seen the original Mean Girls movie? I can see the hands of a lot of millennials, including myself. So keep that in mind as you watch the video. There's going to be several references. Health equity intertwined. And let's see how many you pick up as you watch this video. We can play it now.

(Video on)

SPEAKER: I'm Dorothy. I'm new here. OMG that's so vetch.

SPEAKER: Oh my gosh stop trying to make vetch this.

Happen. Anyways thanks. Are you going to go to the coalition meeting.

SPEAKER: Coalition meeting. What's that?

OTHER SPEAKER: You don't know what the coalition meeting is.

SPEAKER: Oh my gosh I love your work.

OTHER SPEAKER: You've got to go it's like the rules of feminism. It's the rules of equity.

SPEAKER: Oh okay cool. FYI on Wednesdays we wear pink. Get in bargains we are going to the coalition I'm not a regular boss. I'm a cool boss.

SPEAKER: Every quarter there's Riverside County Health Coalition that has different departments and community-based organizations that get together to discuss important matters within Riverside County. Her share so big because it's full of diversity equity and inclusion secrets.

SPEAKER: By the way many members come together to help make this possible.

SPEAKER: Media tables that captures the coalition virtually and American Sign Language translation is available.

SPEAKER: Sick.

OTHER SPEAKER: No worries you can always attend virtually.

SPEAKER: Wow this is all really.

OTHER SPEAKER: You don't even go here.

SPEAKER: Actually we are inclusive coalition. Everyone is welcome so sign up. Give us your contact information the limit does not exist so join.

SPEAKER: Did I miss the coalition meeting?

(Video off).

SPEAKER: How many references did you catch? Several right? As it was mentioned in the video we are an inclusive coalition we welcome everyone to join and if you're not already on our mailing list make sure you register. If you have signed in we will add your e-mail to our registration. And if you are virtual make sure that you are also on our mailing list. So with that, let me move forward.

We have also updated our Riverside County website in that website it has our previous meetings so all of the meeting materials as well as videos, so if you want to re-watch some of the great presentations that have been shared you can also get them through our website. And you can also see our e-mail down below. If it you would like to share any flyers or updates where we send it out during our newsletter as well as different update -- different e-mails where we provide updates you can send it to that e-mail so share it out.

DAISY: There's also a QR code on the table so if you want to get those flyers or information out you can.

So who is in the room? Let's find out. We are going to move briefly through these just because we to make sure we have enough time for the panelists. So we want to make sure when you take our post meeting survey there's going to be a question that asks what sector your organization is from, this allows us to see who is in the room and who else or what other partners we should be inviting to be here.

And that includes faith-based organizations. Housing plans, law enforcement, native and tribal communities etcetera so we want to make sure who is here. And if you would like it send us your logo we also can add to our partnership logos that we have. Thank you these are just a few. There's several out there but if you have your logo please share it through that e-mail that was previously shared.

All right.

SPEAKER: How is everyone doing? We holding on? That was a fun video wasn't it? Our media has fun with it. It's kind of awkward to see yourself on the screen but if any one wants to act in the next one connect with Greg here.

SPEAKER: Up next I'd like to present Aviva Goldmann, an epidemiologist with RUHS public health she is passionate about health equity and access to care. Outcomes and chronic disease management, interactions with the built environment, and health services ... she achieved here Ph.D from UC Riverside and worked in the... in 2023. Let's give her a round of applause.

AVIVA GOLMANN: Thank you so much. I'm really honored and happy to be here. I am going to be bouncing off of what Juan said earlier about us all being co-creators and advocates and hopefully I will be presenting some tools for advocacy in this talk. So, the title is what can

environmental data tell us about our health? And I'm going to just answer that question right now because what I believe environmental data can tell us about our health is it can empower us to protect ourselves as individuals, it can also help us prioritize, prioritize what is most important for collaborative action and advocacy.

So I'm going to show you several data sources that I think are valuable that are locally based or based in California and will hopefully be hopefully be stable to any changes coming up in the federal government. They're going to be on the topics of air quality, climate and heat, and land use, and if some of the material is familiar hopefully there will be at least something new. It's intended to be a level setting talk.

So I'm going to review a couple of the biggest and most common air pollution contaminants we have in our area and the most common one is ozone. Ozone if you remember the days of the hole in the ozone layer is something that we need but we need it up in the stratosphere protecting us. When it's at ground level it's a problem because it irritates our respiratory tracts, noses and can damage lungs. Ozone at ground level is formed from an interaction with other pollution, with heat and sunlight. So, it peaks in the hottest months and in the hottest part of the day.

That large object on the screen is actual meant to represent a human hair because I'm talking about particulate matter and particulate matter the smaller the particles that you're inhaling the worse they are for human health, so this is called PM10 and the smallest part of that is pm 2.5. PM10 means 10 microns or less. Those larger particles are dust poll in the output of grinding activities. Rocks, roads. Pr2.5 is usually the outcome of

combustion. So industry, vehicles, smoke from wildfires, even in cooking and what's dangerous about them is it gets deep into the lungs, and it can even potentially go into the bloodstream and it can increase risk or accelerate heart disease, lung disease, and even raise the risk of dementia in older age.

The largest particles like sand can be airborne in wind events and they are irritating but they don't cause the same chronic diseases, health effects as the smaller particles. How do we know what we are breathing? There is a local agency south coast air management district and this is there are hourly air quality map which is is the area most of us live in this. It's divided into 5 kilometers squares, and you can click on any of them and get the air quality index those projected for that area right now. That's not right now. That's a screen shot but it will break it into the pollutants and what the levels of pollutants are like right now and link you to advice for protecting your health at any level.

For those that take it a step further as individuals or as advocates, it is actually possible to get a low cost air quality monitor and this is called purple air I'm not advertising it or you know endorsing it or anything. But you can if this is in your show notes if you scan the link I think -- view a map of people's data from who have purchased those, and in some cases community groups or even school districts purchased them so they can get local air quality data A they are especially good for pm 2.5. They don't do ozone.

So we are getting into the intersection of air quality and land use now and so a big topic is traffic. There is this great resource from tracking California.ORG.

Unfortunately, the data is a few years old, but it gives great context and actually gives estimates of number of vehicle miles travelled daily. Am I too close to the microphone? Okay.

All right. Thank you. So you can find where you live, click on a hexagon. Get some of those estimates, and traffic contributes to health issues. Chronic health issues and quality of life issues, so that may be a way to identify those things.

Now you may have heard in the introduction that I'm a bug doctor so mosquitos are close to my heart. And mosquitos actually are a land use issue also because in Riverside County almost all of the places that they breed during the Summer all the water sources are artificial in one way or another so objects around buildings that collect water or infrastructure that is not functioning properly like a broken drain, so mosquitos are a public health issue because they're not just a nuisance biting us but they diseases the most common being West Nile in our area.

Fortunately you can get data on West Nile Virus activity and mosquito activity to some degree from this is a -- this is a page of the local agency Coachella Valley mosquito and vector control district. Who are kind enough to join us today. I don't know if it you want ton called. Of Dr. HAN thank you for coming.

So this is last year's end of last season's data. Each of those red points indicates where mosquitos positive for West Nile were found so they're keeping an eye on that.

But one thing in the wings possibly it's not circulating locally yet is Dengue fever and the mosquito and vector control agencies also us at the epidemiology department and the state are watching for Dengue fever

which is spread by mosquitos. You can go to a state-wide resource at maps -- it's in the links and look at your local area and look at the projected risk for Dengue fever in your area.

I just want to briefly mention valley fever which is also linked to land use and also to climate change. Valley fever is inhaled with SPORES mixed with dust. It's serious but rare. But it appears to increase following droughts and in California we've had several thousand more cases per year recently than we did 20 years ago.

We are keeping an eye on heat. In my team we run a heat related illness and heat related death dashboard. Heat being a huge issue especially in this part of the county. You can go to -- you can break down who has been suffering heat related injuries. Emergency Department and worse basically. We don't know about injuries that don't lead it an Emergency Department encounter, but that is that was produced because of community interest, and so that brings me to my last slide. Which is as community advocates you do have access to data that we on the data team are looking at and you can get that by speaking with us using a data request form.

So that is a way to start the conversation. If you go to it you see there's a bunch of questions. You don't have to get it all perfectly the first time you can use it as a start to the conversation. And I hope that you will consider that as a possible tool for community cares because access to public health data is part of health equity. Thank you so much.

SPEAKER: Now we have a quick Q & A. We are so [inaudible] if there are any questions. Are there any questions? Over here.

SPEAKER: Good morning. Thank you for having me today. I'm Brian SAHAS. I work over in Riverside in the environmental science department. I'm currently working on California's 5 climate change assessment this year we are trying to diversify the assessment compared to previous assessments where we are looking more at the region from -- rather than just looking at how the climate is changing in the natural environment we are also looking at how it's impacting our communities, and our constructed environments and one of the components that I'm working on is looking at how heat is affecting community health, and we've been utilizing your guys's website as a reference, and kind of building out our project.

I was curious to see locally what sort of initiatives are going on for heat-related illnesses? And looking at climate change and particularly like looking at the future of like how heat is going to get further exacerbated, and how that is going to affect our communities overall? Not only like from a community health infrastructure perspective but for like our families of how we are going to disseminate information. Thank you.

AVIVA GOLMANN: Yeah sure. Thank you. This is a really important topic. Thanks for bringing it up. There is one or two more things that I'm happy to say about it that didn't really fit into my talk and that is that I'm worried about the effects of increasing environmental heat on people with health vulnerabilities, and chronic diseases so that actually ends up being so many people because it's pregnant people. It's people on certain medications but especially for people with heart conditions, and older folks, hot weather can be so dangerous. And so yeah, that's a project that I'm hoping to do in the future,



hopefully in the near future is to look at whether our hottest days cause excess deaths. Pardon?

SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

AVIVA GOLMANN: 27 what sorry? Oh yes, so when you look at the heat related illness dashboard -- thanking you for pointing that out. Those are the deaths that are coded on their death certificates as having died because of heat. Because of heat stroke, heat exposure that kind of thing, but what I want to look into were there more deaths that were not coded as heat related illness? But there just happened to be more of them on the hottest days? That's something that I'm interested in. I know that in other places heat waves have been like more deaths have shown -- been shown to happen during heat waves. I want to see what is the case for us.

JUAN: Thank you everybody. I know you asked about local initiatives and a lot of this data is what's driving the interventions we are looking to implement through the climate justice program specifically targeting underserved communities but it's big concern. Extreme heat especially in the Coachella Valley. I'm sure you're familiar with. I Groulx up in this area so I know it well.

Up next we have our panel discussion so I would like to call back Dr. Sean Milanovich who will be our moderator for the panel discussion. How are we all doing? Are we good? You guys still awake? All right. All right.

DR. SEAN MILANOVICH: I want to introduce our panelists this morning. And so we're all ready. So panelist number 1 we have Diego Centeno, University of California Los Angeles. Please come on up. When I call you please come up.

Diego. Second panelist, Ivanna Uriarte, pronouns she

her Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability.

And then we have our third panelist Aydee Palomino, pronouns she her, Alianza Coachella valley. And then our 4th panelist we have Conchita Pozar, pronouns she her UNIDASPOR, SALUD. How much time do we have? All right. All right.

Okay, I didn't stay last time. So our title preserving the land community health, environmental justice, and collaborative action. And our goal this morning is to foster collaboration and action among coalition members, community organizations, and local leaders in addressing the environmental and public concerns.

Our purpose is to discuss environmental restoration, land preservation, and sustainable community development while emphasizing the importance of public health, environmental justice, and community well being. The meeting will explore actionable strategies for coalition members to -- that's us -- to support and collaborate on local initiatives.

Our key points of discussion environmental concerns and public health impacts. Addressing issues such as air and water quality, illegal dumping and effects on community health.

Number 2 community collaboration and action. Exploring how organizations and stakeholders can actively support and contribute to on going environmental initiatives.

Number 3, infrastructure and environmental justice, updates on projects such as Safe Routes beautification, climate resilience efforts, and the shade equity master plan.

Number 4, land preservation and conservation efforts. Discussing initiatives that protect natural spaces, including the significance of the Chuckwalla national monument and 5 sustain solutions and policy advocacy. Identifying strata why Is to advocate for policies that promote environmental sustainability and equitable community development.

And so again my name is Sean Milanovich, and I work with Riverside university health systems behavioral health. I am the Native American liaison for Riverside County, and so we are going to begin with our panelists and so in -- I want to start you know to my left and so the intro question to begin can each of you briefly introduce yourselves your organization, and share one key environmental or public health issue that your work focuses on and any successes. Start with you, Diego.

DIEGO: Yeah, hi, good morning everybody. Thank you so much for having me today. It's really an honor. My name is Diego Centeno and I was born raised in the community of North Shore. Currently study for Ph.D at UCLA.

DR. SEAN MILANOVICH: Kudos.

DIEGO: Thanks. My work resolves around the sulfur cycle -- that's toxic gas smells like rotten eggs. The success is we've been able to cover more area and that way we can get more continue us what data for our research.

DR. SEAN MILANOVICH: Thank you Diego. All right. And so Ivanna.

IVANNA: Hi good morning I'm Ivanna Uriarte, and I'm are Leadership Counsel. I'm a policy advocate based off our Eastern Coachella Valley office, and I lead our housing and land use work a little bit about Leadership Counsel is had we work with underserved communities to advocate for sound

policy and eradicate injustices based off the Eastern Coachella Valley office. I focus on working with communities in the Eastern Coachella Valley which include MECCA, thermal -- and North Shore and we work in numerous areas such as air quality climate energy water and -- sorry. And I do want to share a little bit about when public health impact that I'm work with a lot is the unsafe drinking water that is seen in a lot of mobile homes in the ECV and also BOLONGO parks which are smaller mobile homes.

So in these communities we do see a lot of water being contaminated by arsenic and as many of you may know or are familiar with arsenic has health impacts and it can cause impacts such as internal damages to organs. Can cause skin lesions and also has impacts such as can lead to cancer and as many may know our children and elderly are most impact today these health impacts. And I think one of our successes is that we worked alongside oasis mobile home community to advocate for safe drinking water and also we alongside community were able to get 30 million in relocation assistance so this includes relocating those families in the mobile home into safe sustainable homes.

DR. SEAN MILANOVICH: Thank you. All right.

AYDEE: I'm Aydee Palomino. I use she her pronouns. I'm with the Alianza Coachella Valley which is an organization that works with underserved communities in the Coachella Valley region most recently we have worked in the region seeing the lack of the built infrastructure to help our communities kind of mitigate the public health impacts but really the disparity in built infrastructure and natural infrastructure that the Salton Sea region has. And just seeing that as a result of just decades of not enough investment in the region, equitable investment for our

community.

So we do it through our environment justice campaign which focuses on how does built infrastructure help not just mitigate the health impacts and the reasonable because well he no he it's very dusty region and then we add the Salton Sea -- which is unregulated inflow of water into the region. How that impacts air quality but also how do we even just help increase mobility for our communities, and one way we've figured that out. It will probably come up in a later slide is multi-purpose trails in the region. One recent also kind of advocacy when is last year really trying to have the Salton Sea be part of the climate bond.

If you saw that on your ballot in November, that is one thing we really advocate is just to even have like a climate bond on the November ballot. And this was the... going allocated within that bond measure. And also making sure that in the future like how can we draw down more of those funds more intentionally into the region so we're really working with just communities and other CBOs across the state to hyper focus and kind of bring more solutions towards the Salton Sea region. And I will kind of talk more about that later.

DR. SEAN MILANOVICH: Thank you. Conchita.

CONCHITA:

[Spanish] members of the community being able to participate investigation on the health. Okay we work sorry about that. We are working with the school of medicine. Our team is Unidas Por Salud, and we are members of the community. We are health promoters. And their work forces to involve the community to participate in public health. We have chats. We have focus groups, and we have surveys. Thank you.

DR. SEAN MILANOVICH: Thank you, Conchita. Thank you. We've heard from our panelists they are very -- everyone is in grassroots, but what we're hearing is you know we have a chance now to talk about the issues that we're facing that affect our public health, that effect our communities. That affect our children, and one of the things that I heard you know was you know just in these small introductions was about water. Water in our valley. We don't have any water. We have very little natural water on the surface. There's a lot of artificial water. But then the water that we do have is underground and also down at the Salton Sea and the water that's underground you know, under TORES Martinez reservation, under trailer parks is contaminated. It's dirty and our children are drinking this, our community members are drinking this.

And so now is our time to speak up about it. Also the water at the Salton Sea. We are hearing from several of our panelists that do work down there in how we are being affected from the water. How we can be affected from the water at the Salton Sea and the particulate matter, and the gas farts being emitted. Question number 1 I'm going to start with you Diego and then move on down the panel if anyone wants to jump in.

What challenges do you face when advocating for policy changes and how can we as a collective push for stronger environmental protection?

DIEGO: Thank you for the question. So actually, a big challenge that I face as a researcher day-to-day is lack of data. So I personally feel like the government hasn't done a great job collecting water quality and air quality data. Given the amount of people that live in this area and that live around the Salton Sea. And so to account for this

what we've done my group, and I work closely with the... and the Coachella Valley and they've been a great help. We partnered together with academic institutions and we've taken matters into our own hands by going out there ourselves and collecting water quality samples and also installing 2 air sensors who continuously collect air quality samples, of various things. Hydrogen sulfide and other harmful gases and so we no longer rely on the government for the data we -- the northern and the south region are different and it allows us to continue our work. And people should know that sometimes you can take matters into your own hands and make things happen. You don't always have to rely on the government.

IVANNA: I would name 3 challenges, and the first one is start off is the one we are seeing right now given the political climate. We have a lot of our residents that hesitate to go to the community meetings and rightfully fearful of immigration so I think one thing that as a collective we can do is really be intentional in creating safe and welcoming spaces for residents also informing them about rights and just over all reassuring residents that **THR** information will not be shared with any urban organizations, just within ourselves.

Also another challenge is really pushing the lack of political will to move forward with strong programs that really you know reflect and protect communities that are affected by climate change, and also as a collective how can we work together and support each other in holding elected officials accountable and I would say another challenge is the lack of funding for EJ programs so again you know how can we collaborate together and really advocating for investments in water and wastewater

infrastructure, climate programs, and as well like as mentioned you know the E CV does suffer from extreme heat so again really pushing for programs and funding. That would prioritize those programs that are affecting our underserved communities.

AYDEE: I would like to tackle what Ivanna and Diego said. I think what I'm seeing a lot is the need for more regional collaboration across counties, because we work in Salton Sea we were in an awkward invisible geographic barrier. We have Riverside and Imperial county and they are all working in their own projects which is great, but then how do we work for holistic vision when we are trying to bring infrastructure projects that are really -- can mitigate environmental impacts as well as enhance the environmental in our Salton Sea region.

So I am -- I know we suffer from various environmental things such as heat and winds and we were talk about the Salton Sea the aerosol that is get picked up in the wind by -- or in the air by the wind. And then a lot of our residents have suffered these consequences, and have suffered and experienced respiratory challenges and other health impacts. So I think a lot of region units collaboration we need just bottom to top communication. We also need a lot of education about our region. In the legislature itself this year in Sacramento we have a lot of new legislators that need to know the importance and the significance of the Salton Sea region and the Coachella Valley and others and to importance to the state and the country itself.

We're in an agricultural region but we also we're more than that. We deserve our communities to have some of the just basic amenities and necessities we see in our parts of



the valley but we don't necessarily see in the Eastern Coachella Valley or kind of also in these communities in the middle of the Salton Sea like desert shores, salt city, Bombay beach that are kind of like largely ignored because it's out of side out of mind. That's one thing I would say is kind of more communication.

And for the trust to be built especially now in this political climate we are facing just knowing that we want more like how can we draw down really more funds from the incredible opportunity we have are the climate bond that's 10 billion dollars and just climate resiliency programs and projects. They are going to be disbursed amongst various programs and how can we draw down more of those funds to the region for things that can really have positive impacts on our communities.

CONCHITA:

[Spanish] some of the challenges that we are facing in particular when it comes to our community the east side of the valley, for us it's housing. Many of our homes are very old infrastructures, which result in having very old systems of air-conditioning, and that is something that we are facing.

Something we can do in pushing policies is to have more accessible housing. Maybe perhaps have homes that we don't have to worry about having arsenic in our water or lead and maybe this with help us have more safety in our homes and have more accessible housing.

I do want to make a point. Some of the research that we have been doing in these homes say if there's family with 3 children, one can suffer from asthma, another one is suffer from nasal bleeding and another one can suffer from respiratory issues. And that's one of the challenges the

people from the east valley are facing right now. Thank you.

DR. SEAN MILANOVICH: These are very serious issues that we're hearing from our panelists, and they affect our everyday life. They affect -- their families are being affected, living in deplorable conditions, having to -- they don't have access to clean drinking water. Facing heat -- even appropriate housing conditions, and so these are all things that we need to take action on. So I thank you Conchita for bringing that forward.

Question 2 how can community engagement especially youth involvement, drive environmental justice and what immediate actions can coalition members take?

DIEGO: Thank you for the question. So I want to give a bit of background so when I if first started with research during my undergrad years I realized that research just for the sake of research is not very beneficial to communities right. So if you just do research and try to answer a question what does that mean for any one? What I wanted to do was bring research into policy, and around that same time I started getting involved with the ... Coachella Valley as a community scientist and there I realized my research can be impactful instead of just trying it answer a question. What we do with the land of the Coachella Valley as I mentioned earlier briefly, we go on bi-monthly field days. We collect water quality data and air quality data. We install sensors and -- which is important to monitor this. Because it environmental justice for to date and for such a large government to have such money and not invest into it to collecting data that water and air quality are affecting so many people. As being part of the youth if you are part of the youth today be it in high

school, or in college, one way that you can get involved is by asking your teacher professors mentors if there are any projects you can -- the Salton Sea. They don't have to be scientific but I think the first step any one can take is just to be curious about today's problems. Take it upon yourself to learn more, that's how I got started.

As I mention I we are all coalition members so be curious. Attend the work shops like you are doing today. Attend... when they capital. And we can use all the help that we can get. So thank you.

IVANNA: Thank you four. One example recently with YLI. We had a workshop for youth where they did poster created with thermal ranch. It would be a huge luxury development that will have impacts on our environmental and public health so in that workshop we had had a lot of youth you know leading those conversations and having discussions on how impact our communities. And really envisions you know a better future and what they would like to see in their community instead of a luxury development. So I think what's really important for our youth is how are they utilizing the knowledge that we are providing in ways that are meaningful and also taking that knowledge and being leaders in how they can you know share that knowledge with their communities?

Share the knowledge with their family or you know friends, and so I think that is one important way that we can focus on. And another just sharing with all of you would say how we can get more youth involvement is inviting them to do outreach where the youth can be you know volunteering and knocking residents doors and really sharing that information and mobilizing residents.

Also you know hosting creative workshops how I

mentioned sometimes we go to a meeting and it's just information but we can -- like art or story tellings and empowering youth and really you know getting them in the conversation and not just them you know listening to conversations. And also as well you know supporting youth led meetings where you know youth takes leadership in their role and really providing that information you know to community residents to how I mention any group they want to share that information with, and then as well like for us it's how can we have meetings where we provide you know like a policy analysis and what policy really means and for them to be stronger advocate.

I would say another one as well is you know as right now here in the implementation process for the housing e-mail he element we work with the community to secure housing programs that protect farm workers mobile home residents and low income and those programs focus on addressing you know housing in the ECV as Conchita mentioned you know a lot of our housing in the ECV and the main source of affordable housing are mobile homes and you know again those have their own set of challenges where we see a lot of mobile home parks in dilapidated conditions and as well suffer from unsafe drinking water and again how I mentioned, housing is an environmental and justice issue and how can we work together as a collect I have to really address those housing needs of our communities especially since communities like mobile home parks are vulnerable to extreme heat and also extreme cold weathers, lack the proper insulation to really protect our elderly and children as well. And we also see a lot of issues with during the Summer you know you get the really high energy bills and again like really how to we address all these

issues as a coalition?

I want to say one collective action we can take is participate in the housing element meetings of there's housing working groups and as well as a coalition how can we make accountable our local officials who really take action and implement programs that are protecting our communities?

AYDEE: So I just kind of wanted to ask a question, how many of you have either driven from the south to north or the north to south on the Highway 111 in the Salton Sea region? Have you done that in the evening when the sun is setting? Yeah? It's beautiful right? You can't believe that that is there, that body of water is there.

And I think that -- and I don't know if you can share the slide that I brought along -- one of our projects that we are leading right now. There we go.

Okay. So this is one project that we have within our campaign our organization what we call the SALTON Sea community trail network. We are talking about bringing down funds on the state and even in some cases and the federal level we doesn't know what it looks like for obvious reasons but this is one of our strategies is when we are looking at how we can do a project that is at the intersection of environmental sustainability social well being if you notice there's lack of community centers, or buildings for people to safely convene in the Eastern Coachella Valley and Salton Sea region and how can we integrate economic development because we have a lot of small interpreters or businesses in if the Salton Sea region. This is what our community became up with. It's one thing to talk about a trail that is for recreational purposes.

It's another one to talk about a trail really talks about the need for increasing safe mobility to our communities in the Salton Sea. A lot of folks don't even from the paved roads much less even a lot of people rely on cycling or like nonmotorized vehicle, and we don't -- they don't have the proper pathways to do that.

That is one of the solutions that we and our partners brought together, and part of our strategy is there is currently a CV link that is being right now implemented by the Coachella Valley association of governments or CVA G. We have been talking to local government entities on Hugh to expand that to the Salton Sea because it's planned today stop at airport boulevard so we talked to them, and they are currently seeking planning dollars to extend it all the way down to thermal and then also connected to the Salton Sea region and one way to help us is that we have this pledge going right now to support this initiative when we are talking about drawing down dollars from the current climate bond on other existing programs for grant applications and partnering with the right partners, this is one way to show that this region really needs these types of projects in our region.

Not -- I mean, it's also to enhance the environmental we would like it integrate natural infrastructure and promote resilient landscape and you the Salton Sea and improve moment. So how do you get from place A to point B and you can see like some of the elements we envisioned with our community would go into this type of project. And right now we're currently figuring like a funding stack like how do we fund these different elements because unfortunately, in many programs there are you know, grant programs or grant applications that it kind of is just

geared towards one-on-one element or one thing and we are trying to figure out how to bringing this all together in one project.

And for us I mean this has been such an important project because this is something we see as kind of the connecting point to also other resources in the region, there are plans to build resiliency centers across the Eastern Coachella Valley and Imperial and how can we connect people to those resources? And that's all I'll say for that

CONCHITA: So how to challenge or promote the youth, so how can we motivate youth to get more involved when facing climate challenges? I think one of the this innings that we can do is to promote maybe scholarships for the youth to go into the studies of climate change. But for it to be the youth in the east valley. Someone -- a youth, someone like right Mr. Diego who lives in the community. Goes out to have the community to the university and obtains knowledge and brings it back to his community.

Unfortunately, there's not enough resources here in the valley for our youth to be motivated to go into a university and study there, and so for them it's easier to just opt out of university, and work in the fields, maybe supermarket which is a job that is more accessible to them, but unfortunately, they are being paid even at that a very low wage.

And by our children going into universities and studying about climate change, that in turn as parents we would be more interested in going to local meetings, school meetings anything that has to do with climate change because our children are studying that. Thank you.

DR. SEAN MILANOVICH: Thank you to our panelists for your

heartfelt talks, you're speaking from the heart, and how we can get our youth involved. How they can participate in -- how to make the land the priority. How to raise awareness, how to do research on the land, how to become involved with the land. And you know coming from the -- myself coming from the native community, I worked with the Native American land conservancy and we do a lot of outreach programs here in the area. We talk about climate change, we talk about undeveloped infrastructure down in the Salton Sea area. We talk about the impacts that Lithium mining will have on future generations, specifically those family members and communities living around the Salton Sea.

And we need to bring more awareness. We need to be more vocal. We need to collaborate on forums and so this is very much needed.

The time is right right now people, you know we have the opportunity to change. We've being asked to participate and so I encourage everyone to speak up whenever they can. It's very necessary. We want to help our children. We want to help our families, and we want to protect our beautiful lands that create or gave us. So we need to work at that.

So I have another question for our panelists. How can we ensure that efforts forward environmental sustainability are equitable and prioritize the needs of historically marginalized communities?

SPEAKER: If we get started so we can have enough time for the Q & A and on-line and in person. I know that's a loaded question we want to give you about 1 minute each so we can move forward to the Q & A and I know there's loaded question. So in one minute can you answer that question.

DIEGO: Of course.



[Spanish]

SPEAKER: First I would like to thank Conchita for your very kind words. Thank you. I believe the future lies in the youth. We should focus more on collaboration with a lot of various entities. We shouldn't gate keep any date a.m. we currently have a website SaltonSea.org you can look at our data we collect collected on water and air quality and look at the work we've done. I believe that mentoring the youth as well I can teach them all that I know. I can try to guide them in the research, but I may not have the answer to the question that we pose today but they might. Someone eventually will.

And we use the workshops to educate people and to hold policymakers accountable so they can no longer say this is an isn't an environmental injustice. I want to suit how the my lab. We are currently looking for high school students O a college student if you're interested in working with us please after this Reach Out to us. I can give you my e-mail and we can talk further about this. Thank you.

IVANNA: Thank you for sharing. So there is a climate gap in Riverside County and to ... from hearing from the residence living in those impacted community so it's directly hearing from what they need and what are their priorities and needs? Again, how can we advocate and prioritize community needs when we are not hearing directly from them? Again these residents and communities know what works in their community. What doesn't work from their community and what they need in their community so again really ensuring that community is part of the these conversations is leading these programs that are going to be more beneficial to their communities, and again how I

mentioned it's really about creating those space that is are intentional and meaningful, and, yeah.

AYDEE: Thank you. And I just want to give Diego a shoutout because I go to the field days that we have and he's excellent mentor and teacher and has so much patience and he will answer questions from youth and other community sign TIFFs that are maybe newer to the space so really really great teacher. And I would love to see his growth.

One thing that I can think of right now I want to speak to kind of the issue that we have in the region which is lack of capacity. Even in local government. We when we are talking about how to you get competitive as a region to go after grants, to you know get funds that the region needs to implement projects, capacity at the local government, we are talking about small cities, even Coachella in the Imperial region we are talking about like... so it's how do we increase that capacity?

And then how do you also make sure that people are showing up to like really important like transportation commission meetings where you know they are engagement can be heard. And also that we hold government accountable for follow up. So you're giving the important input. How do you know that's being imbedded in planning and implementation plans.

CONCHITA:

[Spanish] I would like for the academic researchers to have a bit more empathy to the community. And to share the data. That way they can share and give tools to the community when it comes to this.

DR. SEAN MILANOVICH: Thank you panelists. Thank you. Thank you.

SPEAKER: Thank you Dr. Milanovic for facilitating the

panel questions and for the panelists. It's great information and we can hear the passion of the the work you're currently doing. We want to open it up for our attendees. We do have limited time so we are going to narrow it down to a few questions. Any questions that we have here in the audience? And if there are any Q & As in if the chat for on-line?

SPEAKER: Hi my name is Cathy. I guess one question that I have because I know a few of you all touched on like it's not just here in Riverside County but we are also seeing issue in like Imperial county and some of our surrounding communities so you know maybe it's not happening yet but are there efforts for cross county like communication or maybe even communication internationally?

I know like we are deeply tied to our communities across the border in Mexico and part of the issues we have here too like in air quality and stuff right we are seeing the impact of ... San Bernardino Riverside all the way to LA so even though there's a lot of work here like how is there any work like across like different counties bays you know that's something that like I -- I'm for getting your name but I know you mentioned right the communities of like North Shore and like Salton Sea that get forgotten about. And you know we see that issue too at Oasis Mobile Home Park where it was like you know whom agencies were quick to be like it's county issue. Well it's federal issue because it's tribal land so what are some of the strategies that are taken to keep our communities from just being bounced around to like the blame to another county or another agency?

AYDEE: So right now there's effort -- joint sponsor of senate bill 534 the Salton Sea region green empowerment

zone and what it zone tackles is that the historically like informal community development models haven't worked. We have tried to advance our own projects such as the trail and people -- there's noted enough resilient housing or there isn't even like sewage projects that are reaching just communities around the Salton Sea region so what this bill does it's direct recommendation from the Lithium valley commission and it was a recommendation where we want to try to put together.

We have want on zone designated around the Salton Sea recognizing we need more collaboration and coordination amongst both counties so we can put community driven projects on the map and start pointing down like or you know having people up in Sacramento like you know kind of see it the Salton Sea for a region rather than 2 different counties because unfortunately, what we see is that we're not aligned politically. We have so much more in common right now. Riverside County is with Inland Empire and Imperial is with San Diego. And when we are looking at different grant applications massive applications sometimes you know 20 million like some of the ones that were coming from the federal, when they you know get back to us and say oh you weren't a recipient it's because oh we already gave it to Imperial and I'm like, well we would have hoped to kind of apply together but just because of grant barriers that that wasn't the case so this designation would kind of help do that but also incentivize more collaboration and coordination across regions.

SPEAKER: Thank you. Any additional questions from the attendees in person? What about on-line? No?

SPEAKER: Just a quick question. Is there any sort of like strategic advisory group that takes on environmental issues

for the region that is representative of all the organizations here? I know like as we kind of said that we are kind of like in a bubble and like communication does get disjointed with my project I have been spending a lot of time and energy to track down information which is really hard. So do you guys know of anything like that? I'm currently trying to build one, and if or be a part of one or something like that. Yup.

SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

SPEAKER: Hi everybody I'm... with -- and so all the data stuff made me very happy because local freely available community engaged data is my jam. The one thing I can think of is the Coachella Valley environmental justice task force that was run partially by COMITE... and partially by the water boards. I don't know if they're still active but I would check with McGill who is their CEO. He was very active and there was a lot of our groups there. It lost some momentum at the pandemic but I know COMITE is still doing great work in that area so I would tap them in terms of over all --

SPEAKER: Thank you JENNA and we also have another coalition member.

SPEAKER: And this is what it's about. It's the networking. If we don't have the answer maybe somebody else does, and --

SPEAKER: Good morning everyone. Gabby with IHHP so I'm really really happy that a lot of these initiatives are taking place but also the concern as one of the community members I've mentioned is the cross of environmental effect. I was wondering if you can repeat the senate number so that way we can look it up especially because of the fact that I mean I live in Salton Sea so I know exactly

what you're talking about.

I know exactly what all of you guys are talking about, and it affects me in real life. Other than the fact that I live in Imperial county and I work in Riverside and San Bernardino. So I get to do all 3 counties at one time so that's the good news. And the bad news I guess you could say so that's -- it's an all 3 for one. The other thing is it's really good to hear because of the fact that a lot. A lot of organizations in regards to the senate bill they service Riverside County or it says the IE and it's like okay well what missing -- the IE? What's the indicator of the IE and that's one thing I've talked to a lot of my leadership to let them know okay Coachella is the Coachella Valley. It's not the IE but yet we are under the IE to geographic jurisdiction. So that would really really help out.

I mean I'm just really glad to hear that. But yet then again there are some organizations that are working in -- with communities or community organizations in Imperial County so that cross information because of the fact that it is affecting would be greatly appreciated. Definitely as much information as you can, I would definitely -- I'm a geek when it comes to reading sometimes so it's really interesting to me. So, but yeah, thank you so much.

And then also can you repeat the website that your for the young student -- the Ph.D. student if you could repeat the website as well and if it's possible for those two indicators -- the website and the senate bill to be shared on the coalition website that would be greatly appreciated us what that pretty much affects all of us

AYDEE: Senate bill 534. It's bringing Salton Sea green empowerment zone and to answer Ryan's question, when

talking about a strategic group this would be the model we are trying to follow and it's modelled after the contract... which was recently passed I think in 2022 in another region of California because they are also trying to tackle their own environmental issues but this is, this is a way to tackle that and have like various representation from various stakeholders in if the region so local government. Community leaders. Tribal, even like we have to have like small businesses also be part of that conversation. I'm sorry? SB534 or the name of the bill? Salton Sea region green empowerment zone.

SPEAKER: And the name of the website.

DIEGO: Is Salton Sea science.ORG we have water and air quality update and on a by monthly basis.

JUAN all right thank you all very much. We appreciate your expertise and knowledge. Let's give them a round of applause. So we had a jam packed agenda, so we are going to be moving forward a little bit quickly. So that we can get to some important stuff. Do you guys want to head back -- unless you want to kick it up here. You're welcome to. If it makes it easier I don't feel as nervous.

Thank you, Dr. Milanovic.

JUAN: Part of all these meetings as you know is getting feedback on how everything is running. So if everybody could take a moment to scan the QR code and provide us feedback on how to best advance health equity in Riverside County we would appreciate it. The survey link will be in the chat for those who are attending virtually so please provide us feedback. If my hair is not looking great let me know.

Yeah we will give you guys about -- my hair is looking fine right? I'm so self conscious. Thank you.

SPEAKER: We should have music.

SPEAKER: [Inaudible]. So this is [inaudible] moment you've all been waiting for [inaudible] so this is [inaudible]. E-mail us, at the e-mails on the screen with the subject line April RCHC meeting commit and reflect activity. What we are asking is that you reflect on the panel discussion, let us know what is one key take away you learned from today's panelists. Let us know what panelist said it, then you will let you know how you will take action. Based on today's discussion how will you take action to support environmental restoration, land preservation and community health? We will get those e-mails in and then we'll select ten folks to get a \$25 gift card.

If you work for the department of public health, I'm sorry, you can't get a gift card. But everyone else can. Even the panelists, right? Like I know in today's economy at that bucks didn't -- but that's a couple of coffees you know and while everybody are -- and while we're going through that, we are going to have our media team our health COMS team come up and share some information with us on the podcast.

SPEAKER: If you still need time you can also access this slide through the QR code so if you didn't quite catch everything. Oh, we can go back. We will give you one more minute. We will give you one more minute. Make sure that you get that.

SPEAKER: Hello. Good morning, and good early afternoon I'm Greg here with Dorothy and we had the privilege of getting recognized with the CAPI award something that we are definitely proud about, and something that we are we couldn't do without the whole team, the with the department



and the... partners and I'll let Dorothy explain more.

SPEAKER: So hi everyone. I know we do this shameless plug at the end of every coalition meeting but for those that are new here, we are your equity podcast team. A team a public health podcast that likes to amplify the community voices so this would not be possible out your input.

In the past we asked for suggestions on topics. You guys delivered and we made sure we incorporated you a the feedback and we tried to partner with as many community partners as possible, on this particular episode that they're highlighting this is in partnership with starting over. If you're not familiar with them they service the formally incarcerated community, so we looked at how incarceration intersects with BIPOC mental health.

Our latest episode that will be released next week is for earth day. We partnered with inland southern California climate collaborative, and, Ashley Jackson -- she's on-line too sorry -- but we want to make sure if you guys have an organization that you'd like to highlight, reach out to us, the QR code the e-mail that you guys received e-mail from just reply and we'd love to work with your organization. So I'll let Greg play the clip.

SPEAKER: Follow-up question to that with it comes to services was when those services weren't there was it more of a was there a point of time one felt they had to be in... or felt a fear to show that they had some sort of mental health.

OTHER SPEAKER: It's a different world in there right. We would always mention it's like day and night. Because you do have to constantly live in survival mode, and that will do a number on you. You know mentally it is said that you know people who have long-term sentences and serve a long

time especially in segregated units, are automatically diagnosed with PTSD.

SPEAKER: So I used to say tell our partners about the podcast it's such a great podcast. One of my favorites. I'm a little biased but winning that award outside of the agency I think that gives validity to the great content that the equity podcast has so I encourage you to play it whenever you're driving so we have our social media information and our QR code for you to stay in touch and I did warn you in the beginning during our agenda we have a action packed agenda so I apologize we didn't give you an break only because it was such great content, so I do want to emphasize that we still have our tables outside, and their' going to be here. But we do encourage you to do because they have great resources, regarding the programs and initiatives that they are doing for you to visit our tables that are outside and get at least one of the flyers that they have, and share it out with the community members that you work with.

So please stay in touch with our social media team. We will be highlighting this coalition meeting as well as other great content from if the department of public health, and if you have other initiatives or work that it you're doing we would also like to promote you. So as you can see you can connect with us there.

So I'll hand it over. So right now we are going to bring up our action group so we can have Miguel provide an overview of the work that our action teams have been done. . How many of you are part of an action group? I see some hands and I think some on-line folks as well. So if you are not part of an action group, we do have a series of action teams that focus on -- we are pulling it up -- that

focus on mental health/behavioral health, housing as well as access to care/resources so Miguel will give a brief update as to one of the action teams's currently collaborating with

MIGUEL: Thank you. As you now during the last meeting from it the 2024 coalition meeting we established 3 working groups, mainly aligned with or chip which is a community health improvement plan. Housing mental health and access to care. During the same meeting -- well before I continue on with the update -- the bigger update is that those working groups informed the content of the community health improvement plan which is is being finalized, and soon I'm not sure exactly when it will be released for you to see the final product, but during that meeting we also introduced an idea to work with art, to be able to advance the work of community health.

How many artists do we have in the room? We have a few artists. How many community organizations use art to advance the goals of community health? Well the Riverside County Health Coalition is the right place for you. As you may remember we launched this idea of creating an art collective that is intended to do just that. And since then we've been working behind the scenes expanding or networking and identifying potential collaborators and I'm happy to report during the last portion of March we were able to work with the city of Paris on a proclamation of April which is public health month, as arts culture and health month. Which is the very first proclamation of this kind in Riverside County.

There are other proclamations that have been also promoted through, or economic development agencies for arts and culture month, but this has a new spin to it. And

we're hoping to be able to work with other cities to do that, and as part of the proclamation, some of the aspects that were highlighted during the Counsel meeting I just want to share what sort of things the city has in store.

The proclamation would now, I would say help them advance different events such as the artist mixer on April 24th, the launch of the mayor's art contest in a community workshop on the future of the Paris theater. Now this effort is not just for April. They are intending to continue to highlight the power of the arts when it comes to community development and they are going to be developing an arts culture and health master plan for the city of Paris.

So if you have any ideas to collaborate with you in terms of using the arts in it issues related to the community, please reach out to me, I see some people that I need to talk to after the meeting because they are actually already doing the work, and we need to be, able to coalesce and that's why it's coalition. Over to Mary, thank you so much.

MARY: Yes. Also too and if I can find the -- like we were mentioning before, with our chip if you're a part of our community health improvement plan we did around November and December where we did different types of meetings just basically to understand how can we reduce the health disparities in Riverside County. And as you saw today there's a lot much talking about these different issues and how we can come to act if. You're a part of it we want to thank you because we are almost done with creating the chip document so once that was out hopefully soon. I can't promise if it's month or earlier. But we will share with the community but again, with these action groups that's

why I would definitely ask you all to definitely join, especially that you all are in it there and there is a way that all the work you have been doing whether it's on your own organization or as well as just your own passion and everything, we want to see the more that have work bring forth.

So we now as coming together with continue to promote these resources and reduce the gaps in the county. So we are just you know again we have it. Scan if you scanned the QR code you can and your scan on the screen but you can see as well myself. My colleagues to see how we can be more involved. So once we have more information and that document is out we will definitely share it and then we will tell you when we are start doing the convening of our objection groups hopefully monthly or bi-monthly depending on what works with people's schedule and how we really meet the ways of how we can I am profit health of our communities. So yeah. Thank you.

SPEAKER: As we continue wrapping up the meeting I want to hand it over and I'll put Jen on the spot so we can hand it over. We are promoting an opportunity -- so she can provide an update. I know we talked about the need for data and the need for community involvement so I'm just going to give JENNA a quick second so she can share about the work that is being done.

JENNA: Hello? Okay. The thank you and this is why I love public health so much. So if you haven't heard of us Clark is a non-be profit based here in the Coachella Valley, and we are your local data geeks and we strongly believe in everything our beautiful panel was saying about giving data back to the community and making the community the owner of the data. Much so one of the big things that we do is

every 3 years we do a survey of the health of the Coachella Valley, the topics are community driven so they're driven by people like all of you who came to me and said, JENNA I need to know XYZ and I can't find it anywhere else, and we collect data from community members. We have done this every 3 years since 2007. 2025 is our 7th survey. We are collecting data right now, so the way that we have been collecting this data is we sent out an invitation to 25000 households and PO boxes in the valley asking people to take this survey.

It had a \$2 bill in it that was their toss keep whether or not they took the survey, and it does have a lot of great topics about air quality and how that impacts your life, whether that keeps you indoors. It has some data about disaster preparedness this time. It has some other very good data about many things I think you all will be interested in. So if you can please encourage the people you know to take the survey. Hopefully we will get enough money to send out a second round, but as we all talked about something is -- a fun challenge.

We will hopefully have this data to release to the public in early 2026. Again, it will be free for everyone, thanks to our generous funders so if you come to me and you said I want to know about air quality specifically for the east valley or I want to know about cancer to health care and how that -- what the barriers are and how they're different for young people versus seniors we can do that for you. We try to make it as accessible as possible, so we do data briefs and info graphics and coloring books Conchita knows about this -- so anything we can do to make it digestible and fun and put it in the hands of wonderful people like you who make magic happen. In fact,, the

reason some of my staff isn't here today is because they're taping with KESQ to encourage people to take the survey.

Is he I am excited to be able to provide that data for you, I'm excited that more and more of it is about environmental justice because I think we are all realizing how very important that is. Diego here said it's an environmental injustice to not have data and that's what I cheered so I apologize for interrupting but I very strongly feel that, and so I'm happy to be here to provide that data. Thank you.

On a whole separate thing we have great data about childhood asthma from around the Salton Sea that is available to share as well. Contact me for data  
SPEAKER: There will be time -- after the meeting to continue networking and as I mentioned we have the tables. And I must say my dad did get that \$2 bill and I know, I know I was so excited when I saw that mail. I'm like we were selected. Yes we know that.

So now that we are nearing the end of the meeting we might take a few minutes pass the 11 time. We want to reiterate we ask you to take our survey as mentioned. Data drives our work. If you haven't finished the survey provides ugh feedback regarding the meeting. If you want this meeting to be 2 and a half hours with a break please let us know. I know it might be a little long err but it must be -- might be needed due to the great content and the information that is being shared. So please take the survey.

We also want to whether we did the activities so I know one is going to be providing that information I believe.

JUAN: Thanks [inaudible]. All right like I say what

everyone was waiting for. We've got ten gift cards so our first winner from vista community clinic we've got Melissa VEGA. Our second winner from JFK Foundation is Carla Florez ROSAS. Our next winner from the Riverside County California farm worker association is José SAVALA. From the youth leadership institute KD, Torres. From our wonderful panel Conchita. From IEHP Gabby Reyes. From the youth leadership institute, Olivia Rodriguez. We also... from Coachella Valley I mosquito we've got Kim HUNG and the last winner from CO in NKUI design Martin Gill. Thank you all.

>> Thank you Juan. We provided the updates. Let me go through so we can go towards the last slide. So as I mentioned we are quarterly meeting. We are going to have having the last 2 quarterly meetings July 16th as well as October 15th. For our next coalition meeting we are still looking a location that is within our travelling area. So we will see the location to be determined. We want to thank you so much for attending our coalition meeting. It was such a great panel, and they discussed great topics that we maybe work on, and if you would like to connect with New Westminster, we can provide information on their contact information, or stay so you can network.

I see Mary. Thank you Mary. Yes it was mentioned that gift card will be e-mailed to you so that's why it's important to you register in the beginning so we know we have your contact information, and with that we just want to thank everyone who attended virtually. We also want to thank you for tuning in and continuing the great work that you are doing. We are public health. We are the community. We are our partners that are working and doing amazing work with the passion that we all have. And with



that I want to do a round of applause for everyone  
(recording stopped)

SPEAKER: Everyone virtually, and we continue our work.  
Let's go out to the community. Thank you again everyone.  
Thank you so much.